

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: July 19, 2006

Division: County Administrator

Bulk Item: Yes X No

Department: County Administrator

Staff Contact Person: Connie Cyr

AGENDA ITEM WORDING:

Approval of a Resolution in support of South Florida Water Management District's Accelerate and Comprehensive Everglades restoration plan for the C-111 spreader canal project.

ITEM BACKGROUND:

The C-111 Spreader canal project is located at the extreme southern end of the Central and Southern Florida Project for Flood Control (C&SF) and discharges directly into ecologically sensitive area of Florida Bay.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOCC ACTION:

CONTRACT/AGREEMENT CHANGES:

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval

TOTAL COST: _____

BUDGETED: Yes No X

COST TO COUNTY: _____

SOURCE OF FUNDS: _____

REVENUE PRODUCING: Yes No **AMOUNT PER MONTH** _____ **Year** _____

APPROVED BY: County Atty OMB/Purchasing Risk Management

DIVISION DIRECTOR APPROVAL: Thomas J. Willi
(Thomas J. Willi)

DOCUMENTATION: Included Not Required

DISPOSITION: _____

AGENDA ITEM # _____

RESOLUTION NO. – 2006

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT'S ACCELERATE AND COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES RESTORATION PLAN FOR THE C-111 SPREADER CANAL PROJECT.

WHEREAS, both the “Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan” (CERP) , approved by Congress and the Florida Legislature in 2000, and the District’s C-111 Spreader Canal Accelerate Project (Accelerate) intend to restore and protect Florida Bay and portions of Biscayne Bay by modifying the C-111 Spreader Canal and other works of the South Florida Water Management District; and,

WHEREAS, the C-111 Spreader Canal Project is located at the extreme southern end of the Central and Southern Florida Project for Flood Control (C&SF Project) and discharges directly into ecologically sensitive areas of Florida Bay. The successful implementation of the Project shall modify the freshwater flows into the Bay to result in a more natural hydro-pattern and thereby improve the ecology and functioning habitat in the Bay.

WHEREAS, following higher than normal rainfalls, the C-111 Spreader Canal has been the source of releases of excess floodwaters to Manatee Bay, part of Florida Bay, causing damage to economically important species of fish and shellfish; and

WHEREAS, these species of fish and shellfish, are of vital importance to the recreational and commercial fisheries of South Florida and the Florida Keys; and, many of these species spend all or a portion of their lives in the Florida and Biscayne Bay estuaries; and

WHEREAS, the Florida and Biscayne Bay estuaries depend upon a correct volume, timing, quality and distribution of freshwater and these factors have been altered by construction and operation of canals and other structures that are part of the C&SF Project; and

WHEREAS, the marine and estuarine species that depend upon healthy estuarine conditions in Florida and Biscayne Bays are essential to the economic health of South Florida from fishing, diving, snorkeling, boating, seafood production and other related economic activities; and

WHEREAS, there is broad consensus that the C-111 Spreader Canal and other appropriate works must be modified, plugged, backfilled and repaired to prevent the inappropriate discharge of freshwater to Florida and Biscayne Bays; and

WHEREAS, the Accelerate C-111 Spreader Canal Projects will produce approximately eighty percent of the benefits to the Southern Everglades and Florida Bay environments of the larger Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan C-111 Project; and

WHEREAS, it is vital to the health and ecology of Florida Bay that the C-111 Spreader Canal Project and its benefits be realized as quickly and cost effectively as possible;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida, that:

Monroe County, Florida hereby unanimously expresses support for the District's C-111 Spreader Canal Accelerate Project and the ongoing effort to complete the larger C-111 Canal Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida at a regular meeting on said Board on the _____ day of July, A.D., 2006.

Mayor Charles "Sonny" McCoy
Mayor Pro Tem Dixie M. Spehar
Commissioner George Neugent
Commissioner Glenn Patton
Commissioner David Rice

(SEAL)

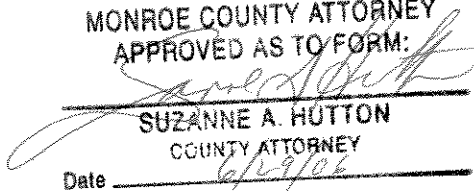
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST: Danny L. Kolhage, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

By: _____
Mayor Charles "Sonny" McCoy

MONROE COUNTY ATTORNEY
APPROVED AS TO FORM:



SUZANNE A. HUTTON
COUNTY ATTORNEY

Date 6/29/06